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elderly gentleman to whose interesting talks we like to listen, but to whom scientific standards and points of view are entirely foreign. Nothing can, perhaps, illustrate this better than the fact that of the 157 pictures, many of them very good, more than two-thirds are inserted without any indication of what they represent, so that one must look up the index to inform himself about their subjects. The fundamental difference between scientific and amateur work shows nowhere better than in the chapter on the Bagdad Railroad, on which, as a former member of the German army, the author can speak as an expert. That part of his book is really valuable; but the rest is simply a series of pictures and adventures which succeed each other like so many pearls on a string, and of would-be aphorisms which hardly ever rise above the level of commonplace.

M. K. G.

### AUSTRALASIA AND POLYNESIA

**The Year-Book of Australia, 1910.** lvi and 781 pp., 5 maps and index. 8vo. Gordon & Gotch, London, 1910. 10s. 6d.

Published under the auspices of the governments of the Commonwealth and States. It is the official record of the statistics, governmental departments, institutions, conditions and progress of Australia.

**Wanderings Among South Sea Savages.** By H. Wilfred Walker. xvi and 254 pp. 48 plates from photographs and index. Witherby & Co., London, 1910. 7s. 6d.

These are interesting chapters of experiences in Fiji, British New Guinea, Luzon and Borneo; and they are all the more interesting because they are a by-product of the author's serious pursuits as an ornithologist. It will, therefore, be understood that he does not pretend to be a geographer or an ethnologist. He writes of the things that interested him with a confidence that they will interest the readers who feel an attraction to his volume. Thus it comes to pass that he has given a valuable account of his experiences with the Negritos of Luzon and that he has given the best description anywhere in print of the Borneo caves where the birds build their nests for a Chinese soup.

In New Guinea he was particularly fortunate in being able to join a punitive expedition directed against the Dobudura in the interior of the north coast of the possession, a tribe never before visited by white men. There was some hard fighting and the constant excitement of a jungle scouting expedition for wild cannibals. The author enjoyed it all and has given us a narrative which must stand as the beginning of geographical acquaintance with that part of New Guinea. He broke new ground in another direction in the same region; he penetrated inland from Cape Nelson to the swamp-bordered lake in which the Agai Ambu (Seligmann names them Agaiambo) live in houses set on piles and lead a life so aquatic that it was long believed that they were web-footed. Mr. Walker somewhat regretfully disposes of this myth, for he says that they are not web-footed, although he observes "between the toes an epidermal growth more distinct than in the case of other peoples."

The governor of the possession, Sir Francis Winter, who followed Mr. Walker on a visit to the lake people, says nothing about the web or the epidermal growth. Both authorities agree on the statement that the Agaiambo walk so rarely on the ground that they cannot do it properly and their feet bleed when they attempt it.

Such unpretentious records must have a great value in clearing the way for the better knowledge of such unfamiliar lands as those which the author has penetrated. This value is by no means temporary, a record of the things which have interested a traveler may contain matter of much permanent importance. This is strikingly illustrated in this work. In a kampong of Dyak headhunters in Borneo Mr. Walker amused a group of young and old by showing them pictures in an illustrated paper. The manner in which they looked at the pictures, upside down, attracted his attention enough for a brief note.

It happens that this involves a matter concerning which the works on psychology and optics are wholly silent. So far as diligent search warrants the statement, there are but four other references to this obscure but interesting phenomenon.

W. C.

### EUROPE

**Geologischer Führer durch Dalmatien.** Von Dr. Richard Schubert. xxiii and 176 pp., 18 text illustrations and a geological sketch map. Gebrüder Borntraeger, Berlin, 1909. M. 5.60.

This little book is No. 14 in the series of geological guides which the Borntraeger Brothers are publishing for the benefit of the traveling public. Anyone who realizes the influence of geology upon the shaping not only of land forms but also of human activities can see what new sources of interest such a guide as this may open to him. The book shows what may be observed, geologically, on excursions from various starting points in Dalmatia; and its helpfulness should be a source of pleasure even to the layman.

**Central Italy and Rome.** Handbook for Travellers. By Karl Baedeker. Fifteenth revised edition. lxxxii and 525 pp., 19 maps, 55 plans and views and the Arms of the Popes since 1417. Karl Baedeker, Leipzig, 1909. M. 7.50.

This standard guide book, thoroughly brought up to date, is likely to be useful to an unusually large number of tourists during the coming fifteen months. In October, 1911, a week will be given in Rome to the commemoration of the proclamation of the Kingdom of Italy. Fall and winter travel in Italy is increasing every year and is expected to be unusually large next year. In this edition of the Handbook, 364 pp. are given to Rome; and among the many maps, those of Elba, and the environs and plans of Elba, Siena, Montepulciano, San Gimignano and Urbino appear for the first time.

**Life in the Orient.** By K. H. Basmajian. Third, revised edition. 277 pp., and many illustrations. American Tract Society, New York, 1910. \$1 net.

In this edition, new chapters show the present conditions in Turkey, and the pictures, also, are new. This is an authoritative work by a native Turk, who was converted to Christianity in his boyhood, has been many years in the missionary service and writes of Oriental matters as none but a native can do. The book is replete with information on all phases of Turkish life.

### GENERAL

**Military Map Reading.** By Captain C. O. Sherrill, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A. 46 pp., 22 figures and map of Fort Leavenworth, Kan. Fort Leavenworth, 1909. 50c.

This manual is used in the U. S. A. Service Schools at Fort Leavenworth